(c) and (d) All citizens of India and Pakistan (but not the third country nationals) can travel on this bus within the territory of the erstwhile State of J&K, including Gilgit and Baltistan. However, the receiving authority would always have the right and discretion to deny entry, and to specify which particular places are allowed in each case, to be visited.

Denial of visa to Pak Information Minister

† 3058. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pak Minister of Information, Sheikh Rasheed Ahmad was denied entry visa by India; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that the persons of both the countries holding diplomat passports have no need of visa for the visits between India and Pakistan; if so, the reasons for such type of behaviour with Pak Information Minister, and

(c) whether it will affect the peace and harmony process initiated between India and Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Central Government processed the application of Pak Information Minister, Sheikh Rasheed Ahmad for 'travel permit' (not the 'entry visa') and declined to give him the same, taking into account all relevant aspects.

(b) All Indian and Pakistani nationals visiting Pakistan or India respectively require a visa, except when traveling by the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service for which a 'travel permit' is required.

(c) Government intends to continue with the present process of confidence building, cooperation and dialogue in an atomosphere free from terror and violence.

Hi-Tech Surveillance System for Indian borders

3059. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.